

The regular meeting of the North Town Council was held on Monday, January 10, 2004 at 7:30 PM at the North Town Hall. Mayor Jeffcoat, Council members Drew, Gleaton and Lane were present. Councilwoman Cook was absent. Also present were Administrator Russell Ott and Clerk Cheryl Townsend. Mayor Jeffcoat declared a quorum and called the meeting to Order. He welcomed the small number of visitors present.

Council unanimously approved minutes from the last Council meeting, public hearing.

Mr. Ott gave the Water & Sewer report. He noted that penalties and cut offs are high this month. The men were busy with leaks and sewer line problems. They were also busy with several other jobs which included: repairing the back flow preventer at the treatment plant, flow testing hydrants, picking up trash, as well as various other jobs.

No Fire Department report was offered.

Chief Fallaw gave the Police Department report. He stated that crime rate was down again this month. They issued 22 traffic citations and had 36 assist calls. Reservists worked 80.5 hours this month. 8 arrests were made. The applicant review board interviewed the five finalists for the new police officer position and recommendations were made. These findings were to be discussed in executive session.

Financial statements were reviewed and accepted unanimously by Council. It was noted that both expenses and revenue were high due to payment of renovation costs to Preferred Construction and reimbursement of the 1 cent sales tax money.

Renovations to Town Hall are coming along nicely. We have had a lot of positive comments. We should be back in the newly renovated building in February.

Jamie Steele, the Resident Engineer of the 321 project, came to update us on its progress. Because of the holiday season, work had been redirected to other portions of 321. Because of this, it may be a couple of months before work is resumed in the downtown area of North. Councilman Drew requested that ample notice of this work be given in order to adequately plan for downtown parking and to allow customers to become accustomed to the new parking arrangements.

Mr. Ott reported to Council that there was interest among the employees to hear about supplemental insurance from AFLAC insurance company. Mrs. Lane made a motion to allow AFLAC to make a presentation to all Town employees, seconded by Mr. Gleaton, and approved unanimously.

Mr. Ott reminded council that the planning commission had been working diligently on the comprehensive plan as well as the zoning ordinance for the Town. Mr. Ott stated that a Council workshop had been scheduled for Tuesday, January 18th, at 6:30. This meeting is open to the public but is not to be mistaken for a public hearing which will follow.

The Community of Character trait for January is Honesty. Obviously, this is a trait that we should all strive for in our daily lives.

First reading was given to the Hazard Mitigation Plan Ordinance that has been prepared for the Town by the Lower Savannah Council of Governments Planning Department. This ordinance must be adopted to make the Town eligible for certain grants and funding opportunities in the area of pre disaster funding.

Public comments were made by Mr. Buckheister and Mr. Gleaton.

Reverend Wright thanked every one for their support of the Day of Prayer. He then closed with a prayer.

Council then voted to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter pertaining to the new police officer.

Council then voted to come back into regular session. A motion was made to extend an offer to the candidate previously discussed in executive session.

There was no further business and a motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lane, seconded by Mr. Drew, and passed unanimously by Council. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Ott
Administrator
